Nnnnnnnn Numb. 5275

The Daily Courant.

Wednesday, September 17. 1718.

Hague, September 23.

THERE is just now come out here the following Piece, intituled, The Answer of Mr. Craggs, Secretary of State to His Majesty the King of Great Britain, to the Letter of the Marquis de Monteleone, His Catholick Majesty's Ambassadour at London.

Hampton-Court, Sept. 4, 1718.

Sir,

I Received some Days ago the Honour of your Excellency's Letter, dated the 25th of the last Month, and I have since seen it printed in all our publick Papers. As it is founded on a Piece of News, of which the King had not then received the Confirmation, His Majesty did not command me to return any Answer to it, till after the Arrival of Admiral Byng's Son, who brought him the Particulars of what passed between the two Fleets, whereby it appears that the Spaniards began the Hostilities.

Without dwelling upon that Circumstance, I am ordered by the King to give in Answer to your Excellency, that this Action might be very well expected, and ought by no Means to appear surprizing to his Catholick Majesty; since, without mentioning the many Offices which have been passed at the Court of Madrid, I need only acquaint your Excellency, that Admiral Byng wrote a Letter thither, ever since the 20th of June O. S. representing to his Catholick Majesty such Engagements as the King found himself under by several Treaties to guarantie the Neutrality of Italy, and to defend the Emperour in the Possession of his Dominions: Desiring his Catholick Majesty to accept the King's Mediation, and to desist from the Hostilities already begun: Offering him his Services, either to withdraw his Troops, or to assist him, in Case the Emperour should not consent to a Suspension of Arms: And lastly, proposing a Truce, while an Accommodation should be negociated; without which, His Majesty foresaw, that the Flames of this War, kindled by Spain, must overspread all Europe. The Admiral afterwards declared, in the King's Name, that in case his Catholick Majesty should reject these Offers of Friendship, he had Orders to employ the Force of his Squadron to prevent the dangerous Consequences of this War, and to maintain the Faith of his Master's Engagements. A haughty short Answer was return'd him in the Name of his Catholick Majesty, namely, That he had nothing to do, but to follow his Orders. The Admiral, not discouraged by so harsh an Answer, but well acquainted with the King's Intentions to avoid Hostilities till the last Extremity, assoon as he arrived before Messina, sent another Letter, dated the 29th of July, O. S. to the Marquis de Lede, repeating to him the same things he had written to Madrid, and concluding, for the second time, that he had Orders to use Force, if his Offers and Intreaties should not succeed for procuring a Suspension of Arms, which was again refused him by the Marquis de Lede. I am perswaded, that, if your Excellency had been informed of these Particulars as well as I, you must have expected, and could not have been surpriz'd at what has happen'd

At the same time, your Excellency does me the Honour to send me a Copy of the five Articles, jointly communicated by my Lord Stanhope and the Marquis de Nancré to his Eminency the Cardinal Alberoni. Your Excellency cannot but have observed, that it is express'd in the last of these Articles, that, if, during the Three Months which the Contracting Powers offer his Catholick Majesty to accede to their Alliance, he should begin a War tending to obstruct the Execution of the Dispositions made by those Treaties, the said Powers oblige themselves to prevent him by Force, even within the said Space of Three Months. Now the Invasion of Sicily is directly contrary to these Dispositions, and Cardinal Alberoni had Notice given him, not only by the Communication of these Articles, but by my Lord Stanhope's Demand of a Passport, in case of a Rupture, which his Catholick Majesty had the Goodness to grant him: And his Eminency declar'd to Colonel Stanhope, the King's Minister, that he well foresaw what might happen, without endeavouring to prevent it, by seeking to obtain his Catholick Majesty's Consent to a Truce, while an Accommodation should be negociated.

It remains, Sir, that I answer the obliging Declarations his Catholick Majesty has made in Favour of the Trade of this Nation. On this Head, I have the King's Commands to repeat to your Excellency what I have often had the Honour to tell you by Word of Mouth, and I shall be careful to advance nothing but such Facts as are known and incontestable, the Proofs of which I have in my Hands ready to produce, whenever the Opportunity, so earnestly desired by the King, of coming to a friendly Explanation with his Catholick Majesty, shall furnish me with the Occasion I wish for, of discussing these Matters with your Excellency.

1. Imposts have been laid on our Merchandizes, directly contrary to our Treaties of Commerce with the Crown of Spain.

2. Several kinds of Goods have been prohibited, which are expresly allowed by the same Treaties.

3. The Schedules for their Annual Vessels have been denied the South-Sea Company, contrary to the express Letter of the Treaty; without any better Reason given for it, than that it was not for the Convenience of the Court of Madrid to grant them.

4. Our Merchant Ships have been seized in all the Ports of Spain: The Spanish Men of War and Privateers have brought them in by Force; have obliged them to take out their Cargoes; and to their inexpressible Loss have constrain'd them to transport the Troops, Horses, Ammunition, &c. for this very Expedition which has disorder'd the Affairs of all Europe. I am even assur'd, what I can scarce believe, that Owners of these Vessels, for endeavouring to struggle with such unheard of Proceedings, have had their Ears cut off: And that the first Thing done by the Spaniards, upon their entering Messina, was to thrust the King's Consul into Prison. I content my self with the bare Mention of these Facts to your Excellency. You will have the Goodness to examine how consistent they are with the favourable Declaration you have made for the Trade of Great Britain.

The King commands me, Sir, as it is his Inclination that nothing should be aggravated, to touch but very lightly on other Complaints of an inferior Nature. Such are

The Menaces to seize on the Effects of the Merchants his Subjects, notwithstanding the Treaty which declares expresly, and in so many Words, that even in case of a Rupture, there shall be six Months allowed each Party to withdraw their Effects.

The Insinuations dropt at Madrid, not only of Domestick Troubles, which might be raised to Distress the King, but even of the Force which might be Openly employed in favour of the Pretender: And the Advices from many Quarters of the Intrigues and secret Negociations between the Ministers of his Catholick Majesty and the Emissaries of that Person. To all which his Majesty gives no Credit, being perswaded that his Catholick Majesty can never come into Measures, so contrary to the Law of Nations, to the Treaties of Alliance between the two Crowns, and to the Conduct which His Majesty has so religiously observed towards the Catholick King: Of which your Excellency will give me leave to mention some Particulars.

The King has never once thought of stirring up Difficulties and Disorders to his Catholick Majesty in his own Country, since the Crown of Great Britain acknowledged him King of Spain. What Alliance or Friendship soever the King has had with his Imperial Majesty, he never entertain'd a Thought of giving him the least Assistance in his Pretensions to the Kingdom of Spain. On the contrary, His Majesty has not only Sought but Found the Means to make the Emperour for ever to renounce them for himself and his Family, whenever his Catholick Majesty shall himself consent to it. And the King, in concert with his most Christian Majesty, has further engaged him to give the Reversions of Tuscany, Parma, and Placentia, to a Son of his Catholick Majesty.

The King has been yet more averse from encouraging any Practices with the Subjects of his Catholick Majesty, by Means of his Ministers at that Court. He never had any Intention of representing to them the Loss of many of their Ancient Privileges, the Burden of their Taxes, and the Dangers of a new War with those Nations whose Friendship they stand most in need of: Though there might possibly be among the Subjects of his Catholick Majesty, some who are not yet well-affected towards him, unless whole Kingdoms have very much changed their Inclinations since the last War. On the contrary, His Majesty always would and should still think himself obliged by the Bonds of that Friendship which hitherto has subsisted, and which he hopes does yet subsist betwixt His Majesty and the Catholick King, to give him Notice of any such Contrivances, like a good Brother, and a good Friend.

His Majesty has been yet more tender upon this Point, and would not allow even that the Spanish Merchants should be given to understand, what Incon-

veniencies might befall them in Case of a Rupture with Him; or the Dangers and insurmountable Difficulties they might meet in their Trading to the Indies, or any other Part of the World, should they make War with a Power so considerable at Sea, as that of Great Britain.

Whatsoever Threats have been given out by the Ministers of his Catholick Majesty at Madrid; however ill-suited these Threats have been to the Dignity of the British Crown; how little soever that Crown has been used to such Language; His Majesty has had the Consolation to see that he hath undergone this Treatment in common with France and Holland, something better yet than what the Emperour and Sicily have found, both of which Spain hath actually attacked. But far from complaining to the King of Spain of his Ministers, farther yet from complaining of the King and his Ministers to his People, His Majesty hath rather chose to suffer this Treatment, knowing too well that such kind of Cabals are contrary to the Law of Nations, to the Usages established between Soveraign Princes, and to the good Correspondence he ardently desires to maintain with his Catholick Majesty.

The King hopes that his Catholick Majesty has always had, and ever will have the same Sentiments towards him, which His Majesty hath now expressed; for which Reason he can give no Credit to the News he hears from Holland, that the Ambassador of Spain, Monsieur the Marquis de Beretti Landi, an accomplished Minister, and one who hath distinguished himself by his Zeal and Penetration, has presented a sort of Memorial to the States, intituled, *A Translation of a Letter written the 20th of August by M. the Cardinal Alberoni, to M. the Marquis de Beretti Landi*; which begins with these Words, *It is notorious every where, that the Ministry of Great Britain being prepossest by their Passions and particular Views*, &c. And in the end orders his Excellency to *read this Letter to all the English Merchants in general*, &c. It is unnecessary that I refer to the printed Letter, since this Minister hath said that your Excellency hath received the same Orders, and since these Instructions seem rather calculated for a Minister residing at London, than for Monsieur the Marquis de Beretti Landi. But I cannot imagine that his Eminency, who so well knows how to display the Dignity and Decorum of the Crown of Spain, hath given Orders to her Ambassadour to pass publick Offices with Merchants the Subjects of Great Britain, which can only tend to incense them against the Government of their Soveraign. This avowed manner of Negociating is so unheard of, that I dare answer it will not be approved by his Catholick Majesty, and cannot be suffered by the King my Master.

But to return, Sir, to your favourable Declaration for our Trade, the King orders me to acquaint you that if his Catholick Majesty (having discovered the Abuses which have been committed in breach of Treaties, and by the Violences which have been exercised without his Knowledge on the Subjects of Great Britain) hath thereupon ordered you to make such a Declaration, His Majesty commands me to desire your Excellency would on His part thank his Catholick Majesty, and express to him the kind Sense he hath of it.

Nevertheless, Sir, to avoid the like Mistakes for the future, and that no Coldness on either Side may abate the Friendship which the King so passionately desires to cultivate with his Catholick Majesty; He commands me to acquaint your Excellency, that He doth not pretend to any other Trade for his Subjects, with those of the King of Spain, than what is stipulated by the Treaties between the two Crowns, and particularly, when the Peace of Utrecht was made by them in such Circumstances, as his Majesty hopes the Catholick King will acknowledge that of Great Britain was not exorbitant in her Demands. But at the same time, Sir, His Majesty doth not understand that he is to receive the Execution of these Treaties as a Favour to be granted or taken from him at the Discretion of the Court of Spain: And his Majesty is perswaded, if the King of Spain should ever take the Resolution to ruin the Trade of his Subjects, he would at the same time, take that of declaring War against him: Since the only Evil his Majesty could apprehend, would be the Damage such a War might bring upon the Trade of his People: A Damage, His Majesty must with infinite Regret, endeavour at least to repair, by such Methods as may probably prove as dangerous to the Trade and Interests of Spain, as to those of Great Britain.

To conclude, Sir, I beg of your Excellency to reflect, that the King has demanded no new Advantage, that he does not seek to aggrandize himself by any new Acquisition, but is rather inclin'd to sacrifice something of his own, to procure that general Quiet and Tranquility, which he only desires to enjoy in common with the rest of his Neighbours. And I have His Majesty's Orders to declare to your Excellency, that He wishes not only for Peace, but even for the strictest Friendship with his Catholick Majesty; that He earnestly demands them both; and that on His Part He offers them to him. But, in a Word, whatever shall be the Event, His Majesty will maintain the Dignity of his Crown, the Trade and Privileges of his Subjects, and the Faith of his Treaties.

I have the Honour to be with most perfect Esteem,
Sir, your Excellency's most humble,
and most obedient Servant
J. CRAGGS.

London, September 17.

Yesterday arriv'd a Mail from France; the Advices it brings shall be communicated in our next.

London, September 17

Yesterday South-Sea Stock was 109 1 qr, 108 1 half, to 108 3 qrs. Bank 149, to 148 3 qrs. India 194 1 qr. 193 1 qr. to 193 1 half. Lottery Annuity 102.

AT Bullock's and Leigh's New Theatrical Booth, they being Remov'd in their Old Place, next to Mr. Pinchbman's, during the Time of Southwark Fair, this present Monday will be acted a Dramatick Opera, call'd, Love's Triumph; or, The Happy Fair One. With all New Musick, Cloths, Scenes, Dancing, and Decorations, proper to an Opera. The Fair continuing as usual.

Lost out of a Gentleman's Pocket last Saturday Night, between Fleetditch and the Temple, a Memorandum-Book, and some Law-Bills and Receipts for Money, not worth one Farthing to any Body but the Owner, who has order'd 10s. to be paid to any Person who will bring the same to Mr. Meere at the Black Fryer in Black-Fryers, and no Questions shall be asked.

To be LETT,

A Convenient House, with a good Shop and Warehouse, at the Upper-end of Wood street, near Cheapside. Enquire at the Coffee house next Door, or at Sadler's-Hall in Cheapside.

To be Lett,

Near the Royal Exchange in Cornhill, One Side of a Shop very conveniently fitted, fit for a Toy-shop, Hosier, Haberdasher, Sword-Cutler, &c. Enquire at Mr. Hare's the Corner of Freeman's Yard in Cornhill, and know further.

To be Lett.

A large House of 4 or 5 Rooms on a Floor, or 7, if required, in S. Nicholas-lane, situate at the End next Lombard-street. The Particulars may be known by inquiring for Mr. Aaron Depas at John's Coffee-house in Exchange Alley, Lombard street.

To be Sold,

Counters and Presses, fit for most Trades; Cases of Holes fit for Hosiers and Haberdashers of Small Wares; Goldsmith's and Toymen's Show Glasses; a very fine large Shop Grate, a Copper Sign and Irons; also Sash Windows, Sash Doors, Arches, Shutters, Doors, Hatches, Double Desks, &c wherein much Time and Charge may be sav'd in fitting up shops and Warehouses: At Mr. Appelby's Yard in Moor-lane, near Moorfields: Where Money may be had for any Quantity of the above-mention'd Things, that are good.

The Duke Sharoft Yatch, Capt. Thomas Knight, and the Lea Brigantine, Capt. George Durnford, both lying at Hustyard-Chain, near St. Katherines, one of them will depart in Turn for Calais every Friday, and from thence the same Day, with Passengers and Goods, or without, and will continue so to do all the Year round, Wind and Weather permitting. The Masters are to be spoken with at Bridge's Coffee-house in Cornhill, near the Pope's-Head-Tavern, every Day at 12 a-Clock, till 2 in the Afternoon, and their Agent all Day, at the Three Wine Vaults in Suffolk-lane, near Merchant-Taylors-School; where he sells all sorts of Wine at Reasonable Prices, French Brandy at 9s. per Gallon, and the French Hungary Water at 14 s. a Dozen. Note, The said Yatches have sail'd constantly hitherto as they were first Advertised.

For SALE by the CANDLE,

This Day, the 17th Instant, at Lloyd's Coffee-house in Lombard-street, at 3 a-Clock in the Afternoon, The Mary Galley, Philadelphia built, 140 Tons by Measure more or less, now lying in the Dock at Limehouse Bridge, Capt. Robert Dinwiddie Commander. And on Friday the 19th Instant, at the Time and Place aforesaid, The good Ship the Lancaster, English built, 170 Tons by Measure more or less, now lying at Bell-Wharf, Capt James Tregoe Commander. Also the Anne Galley, English built, 60 Tons by Measure, more or less, being very fit for the Guinea Trade, lying at Ratcliff-Cross, Capt. James Apleyree late Commander. Inventories of the said Ships, with their particular Dimensions, are to be seen on Board, and at the Place of Sale. To be sold by Sam. Eyre, Broker, who is to be spoke with on the Spanish Walk on the Exchange, and at the Place of Sale.

This Day, the 17th Instant, will be sold by Auction, the Goods of Col. Dean, at his House in Great Queen-Street, Westminster, who is Removed to his Country Seat: Consisting of Standing Beds, Down Beds, Feather Beds, India Cabinets, Tea-Tables, Chests, Peer-Glasses, Chimney-Glasses, Sconces, Chests of Drawers, Clocks, Escretores, China Ware, a fine Outlandish Harpsicord, with fine Pictures and Prints, and very good Kitchen Ware. The Sale to begin at 10 a-Clock, and to continue till all are Sold. The Goods are sold by the Colonel's Lady, and not by Brokers. Note, The House is to be Lett.

For SALE by the CANDLE.

On Friday the 19th Instant, at Lloyd's Coffee-house in Lombard Street, at 6 in the Afternoon, sundry Pipes or Chest of Wine in a Lot) viz. 18 Chests of Claret, New Bad Florence Wine; in a Vault under Mrs. Bohee's, in Great St. Helens, in Bishopsgate-street. 29 Hhds. of extraordinary good New Margaux Claret, and 1 ditto of New White Frinac Wine; in a Vault under a Stationer's against Fenchurch-street-end in Gracechurch-street. 4 Hhds. and 2 Quarter-Casks, of New rich Roma Teint Wine in a Vault in Dice Key Gateway, near Billingsgate. All 44 Hhds. of Old Margaux and Obrion French Claret, fine and fit for Bottling in a Vault between the Queen's-Head Alehouse and the Passage going into Leaden Hall Market, in Lime-street. To be seen and tasted this Day and Tomorrow, from 8 to 1, and from 2 to 6, and to Friday (as above) till the Time of Sale. To be sold by Tho. Heaton and Wm. Gibson, Brokers.

BODLEIAN 12 AUG 1980 LIBRARY

LONDON: Printed by S. Gray in Amen-Corner.